VEL
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Soundings

Northwest Washington

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Volume 16, Number 3
March 1999

436,000 Strong

The news cannot be better!!!

KIRO AM 710 is the fastest-growing Lutheran Vespers station in the country. Since the program went on the air last March, more than 436,000 people in Western Washington have heard it. That makes us the second-largest audience in the country: the only larger one is WCCO in Minneapolis, which has been carrying Lutheran Vespers for 50 years!

Our growth is unprecedented and we expect there are three factors at work:

- Speaker Walt Wangerin has a unique gift for reaching people with the Gospel
- KIRO AM 710 has the largest listenership of any station in Western Washington
- Our 7:30 a.m. Sunday timeslot commands around 16,200 listeners per week

Whatever the reasons for our growth, we must acknowledge the great hunger in our area for a program like this. Please pray for the program, and help support it with your gifts.

During the first week of February, pastors and council presidents should have received a letter and blue postcard about Lutheran Vespers. The ready-to-mail card is designed to be returned to the Synod office, to let us know how many congregations will be able to sponsor the program in 1999.

If you've already returned your card, thank you! If not, please take a moment to do so.

(see related article on page 4)

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Young men see visions; Old men dream dreams

(Joel 2, Acts 2)

By Bishop Don Maier

Behold the smiles of old men as they imagine what they will not live to behold. See the eagerness of the young men as they envision a new day before them. Could this be the new day?

The place is China, the city of Guangzhou (aka Canton) in the Province of Guang Dong. The Rev. Harold Huang is 84 years old. Rev. Fan Xiu Yuan is at least 75 years old. They were Christian pastors in this city when the Cultural Revolution closed the churches. They watched Bibles and hymnals burn in fires set by the Red Guard. One went to solitary confinement and the other to labor in a factory where he spent 17 years. When restrictions began to lift in 1979, they reopened the largest church building in the city with an overflow congregation in attendance.

Now, Huang is the President of the seminary operated by the Provincial Council (Protestant Church). Fifty men and women students crowd into the building that once accommodated the Anglican bishop and his family. Yuan is the Vice-President of the Provincial Christian Council. He travels to towns and villages to encourage the 470 congregations. One of those congregations is preparing 1,000 people for baptism.

Rev. Chen and Mr. Wang are the young men with visions. Chen is vice-principal of the seminary; he will take over a new seminary for 200 students. Wang is executive secretary of the Provincial Christian Council. Both are in their 30's. The future is in their care.

Between the 80-year-olds and the 30-year-olds, there is no one. Haung and Yuan are men full of grace, rejoicing to lay hands of blessing on young men of vision. The Gospel will not die with them! Indeed, new fruit is there—60 and100 fold.

The young men? They gaze with affection on their fathers in faith. It is a beauty to behold.

Christ is alive! God, our own God, is faithful and true!

Synod Endowment Investment Committee

Needed are volunteers for the Endowment Investment Committee. The committee meets four times a year. Volunteers should have professional money management, investment management or securities brokerage experience. The committee's sole responsibility is the management and investment of the assets of the Synod's three endowment funds. The committee has no responsibility for disbursement. Contact Joe Stone, committee chair, at 425-831-6021.

Synod Finance Committee

Additional Finance Committee members are needed. The committee meets ten times a year and is responsible for assisting the Synod Treasurer and the Council in working on the annual budget and on financial policies and procedures. It also presents financial training workshops for congregational financial representatives. Volunteers should have some business and/or accounting experience. Contact Norman Swenson, committee chair at 206-542-4681.

Toward the Spring of Life: A Catechumenate Training

by Randy Schafer, Dave Marcrander, Jim Risan, and Nona Gram
St.Andrew's, Bellevue

The Catechumenate training we received last November was gratifying. Not only did we learn new approaches based on traditions of the early Church, but we met some very special people.

Catechumenate is a Word Centered apprenticeship in the faith intended to welcome, nurture, and support those new to the Christian faith. It focuses on the fundamental disciplines of Christian life; worship, prayer, scripture reading, and ministry in daily life.

Key to the Catechumenate learning was hearing the stories that others shared, their trials and victories in their faith journey. We were quickly drawn to each other by sharing our personal testimony throughout the weekend. It was easy to risk sharing from our most profound faith experiences, and we quickly developed trust with our new friends.

Our experience can be described by what we learned, and how the event made us feel. Afterwards, we found it easier to explain what we learned than how it made us feel. Sometimes a significant spiritual experience is hard to put into words.

We spent the weekend in a fast-forward mode simulating the passing of the church year and the stages and rites of the Catechumenate process, beginning in the fall and culminating in the Baptism service at the Easter Vigil. We did all this in less than 48 hours without feeling breathless.

The Catechumenate approach relies on mature believers sponsoring those who are in a period of inquiry, preparing to make a commitment to Christ. The sponsors support and coach those inquiring about the faith throughout their journey. The Inquirer can then decide to make a public statement of the intent to enroll as a candidate for Baptism. The process then leads the candidate through Bible study and small group exercises where tough questions can be asked and answered together in an environment of unconditional love and support. We found the exercises during this period of "intense preparation" to be quite powerful. The reflective Bible study and group prayer sessions were especially meaningful.

The worship services and rites we experienced reinforced how seriously we take our commitment to the Lord and to the process of cultivating the faith of those we sponsor. The final service was the most powerful of all; it certainly did not *feel* like a simulation! "Though meant to be a representation of the baptismal ceremony, in my heart I was reaffirming my own baptism and commitment to discipleship. I suspect we all felt that way."

These few words can't begin to do justice to the experience of that weekend event, or of the potential power of the Catechumenate process in a church and community. These acts of sponsoring and preparing those to be baptized (and those reaffirming their baptism) demonstrate our dedication to nurture and lift up one another, letting the Lord use us to help build the body of believers.

A church incorporating the Catechumenate will soon see itself as an evangelizing community instead of a fellowship community. To more fully appreciate what the Catechumenate can mean for you and your congregation, plan to attend the next Synod training event. Contact Rev. Bev Piro at 206-542-1314.

File Report Forms Electronically

Tired of filling out those congregational report forms every year? Now you can do it electronically over the web! Simply log on to the ELCA web page (www.elca.org) and go from there. If you need assistance, send e-mail to alderfer@elca.org or call David Alderfer in the Office of the Secretary at 1-800-NET-ELCA, ext. 2803. The ELCA will send the Synod office a copy of the report that you file.

New Cluster Deans

Recently, there have been several Cluster Dean changes in our Synod. Please note the changes:

Whatcom Cluster--Stan Jacobson
Sno-Isle--Jeff Russell
Sno-King--Dan Selma
Northwest Seattle--Julie Josund

Thank you to those Cluster Deans who have recently stepped down: Leonard Erickson, Richard Edmonds, Chris Boerger, and Brian Beistel.

Global Mission Events

Announcing two changes in locations for ELCA Global Mission Events (GME) for this coming summer:

- The July 15 to 18 GME originally scheduled for the University of Evansville is moved to Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN. Same dates and state, new location.
- The July 22 to 25 GME originally scheduled for the Grenelefe Golf and Tennis Resort is moved to July 23 - 25 at the Marriott World Center, Orlando, FL. Slightly changed dates, same state, new location.
- The July 29 to Aug. 1 GME at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln is as scheduled.

The March/April "Action Packet," which arrived at ELCA congregations within the past two weeks, still includes the incorrect information. Your help in spreading the above correct information will be much appreciated. For more GME information, call 800-638-3522, ext. 2642.

Bethlehem Challenges All NWWA Congregations

Bethlehem, Seattle, is challenging other NWWA congregations to support Lutheran Vespers. And, $2,000 is available to congregations help defray the cost.

What do you need to do to participate?

1) Be one of the first four NWWA congregations to say that you will support at least two Lutheran Vespers in 1999.
2) Notify the Synod office of your intent.
3) Upon airing, NWWA Communications Committee (through the generous Bethlehem gift) will reimburse half the cost of one broadcast.

Each 30 minute broadcast costs $850. Your message (with the name of your congregation) will be added at the end.

Remember, Lutheran Vespers on KIRO reaches 16,200 listeners every Sunday sharing the Word of our Lord.

SCANNED 12 of 217

Bishop's Convocation

by Ann Siqueland, MDIV

Mary Moller, MSN, ARNP, CS; and The Rev. Craig Rennebohm were the speakers at the January 14 Bishop's Convocation which focused on the subject of major mental illness, and how the church can provide helpful assistance to individuals who live with these illnesses.

Mary, Administrator of the Suncrest Wellness Center, Spokane, showed a series of slides of the human brain, describing the various parts, and each part's function. She made the point that major mental illness is a biologically based brain disease expressed emotionally and psychologically in a social setting. Various things can cause these illnesses, including a virus during pregnancy and genetics. People are born with major mental illness. It is not something you can "catch" like the flu.

Pastors do not have to be "therapeutic" to be helpful to an individual who comes to them with a major mental illness, according to Mary. People who are experiencing a psychosis are concrete and need their pastor to be real. Words like "This must be really embarrassing for you to talk about," or " I know this must have been very hard for you" can be helpful as someone attempts to describe what they are experiencing.

It is also helpful to remember that the brain "beats" as many times in a second as the heart does in a minute. Mary suggested that pastors learn how to take their parishioner's pulse and assist them to relax. When the pulse gets down to about 70, the brain may have also slowed down enough to function. Verbal prayers are also helpful.

A handout from Mary's discussion included helpful pastoral hints. These hints include: let me know that you care, provide reassurance, accept me, visit me, stay in touch, listen to me, be concrete, and many more.

The Rev. Craig Rennebohm, Mental Health Chaplain in Seattle, was the afternoon speaker. He spends about 50 percent of his time working with homeless mentally ill people on the streets of Seattle and about 40 percent assisting congregations to develop programs to minister to individuals who live with major mental illness.

He focused on pastoral approaches to interacting with individuals who are experiencing major mental illness. He stressed that it is not necessary for pastors to become experts in psychiatry to be helpful. Craig outlined four stages of the pastoral process: 1) "Approach" the individual by observing the individual in an unobstrusive, gentle way to introduce yourself. 2) Become a "companion" to the individual. 3) Develop a "partnership" in which the pastor and individual look together for resources to build a healing team. 4) Develop a "mutuality" in which the pastor and individual become brothers and sisters in faith and together participate in the life of the community of faith.

Mary can be reached by e-mail at: marymoller@aol.com and Craig can be reached at 206-622-2472. Tapes of the Convocation are available by contacting me at 425-822-7907.

Colombian Response

Lutheran World Relief is responding to the earthquake in Columbia. A small first grant has been made for the purchase of food by a Baptist congregation in Bogota, which is in position to help those in need. LWR is working with Lutheran churches in Columbia to assess needs. More information to come. If you need more immediate information contact LWR at 1-800-LWR-LWR-2.

A Good Candidate?

Women of the ELCA and the Division for Global Mission (DGM) Companion Synods Program are continuing to promote global education and advocacy. Three international study seminars have been held in Mexico, South Africa, and Malaysia. Incorporating the learnings from those three seminars, a fourth seminar, this time in Slovakia and Russia is planned for two and a half weeks in late October and early November.

Do you know a woman who could be a potential participant?

The Women of the ELCA and DGM are looking for women who aren't doing everything else in the Synod and who have time to be Global Education Advocates. Also important is that potential candidates are in good health--the seminar is strenuous and definitely not a tourist trip. Participants must be willing to make at least a two year commitment following the study seminar.

For more information, please contact the Synod office at 206-783-9292, 1-800-244-6997, or e-mail at ELCA.NWWA.SYNOD@ecunet.org.

"Hurricane Heroes"

"Hurricane Heroes" is a new 14-minute video and is part of the inter-Lutheran campaign "Millions for Mitch".

"Hurricane Heroes" briefly re-lives the drama of the storm and introduces an LWR partner organization in Honduras with a long-standing commitment to the poor. Then the video goes to the end of the road--to see what aid makes it the last mile and to see what happened from the spotlight.

In a little village near the Nicaraguan border, we find a microcosm of Mitch both in destruction and in hope. We meet the capable, confident, faithful people that it is our privilege to support in Christ's name.

For a free loan of "Hurricane Heroes" call 1-800-LWR-LWR-2.

Let's Talk...Stewardship

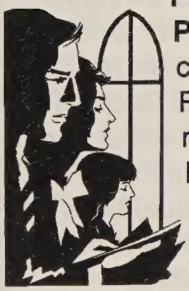
The NWWA Stewardship Committee has planned three meetings (you choose which one is the most convenient) to get together and to talk about stewardship in our congregations. You can share your joys and your frustrations. Meet others who are also involved in stewardship.

All meetings will take place from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Food will be served!!! Contact Philip Reitz at 206-624-0093 or Steve Olson at 425-392-7799.

Monday, March 8--St. Matthew, Renton
Thursday, March 11--Our Savior, Everett
Monday, March 18--Phinney Ridge, Seattle

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

by Pastor Dennis Anderson



Members of the **North Puget Sound Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church USA** celebrated the Lutheran-Reformed Full Communion relationship with a joint Eucharist at their January 16 meeting at Terrace View Presbyterian Church in Oak Harbor. More than 100 delegates worshiped in a noon-time liturgy adapted from the celebration held in Chicago.

Denominational participants included Rev. Lynn Fitch, U.C.C. Conference Minister; Rev. Terry Nelson, Presbytery Executive of the North Puget Sound Presbytery; Mr. Larry Martinson, Reformed Church in America; and Pastor Dennis Andersen, Ecumenical Representative of the Northwest Washington Synod, ELCA.

Other congregations around Puget Sound also celebrated The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Members of **Ravenna Boulevard Presbyterian Church joined with Bethany Lutheran, Green Lake** for a joint festival eucharist; the regular weekly Taize music and prayer service at the **Catholic Cathedral of St. James** in Seattle invited denominational executives and representatives from Seattle to vest in white albs; and members of **Holy Cross Lutheran, St. Margaret's Episcopal and St. Madeleine Sophie Catholic Parish** celebrated by joint prayer services and by a panel discussion.

You Deserve A Yurt* Today

Members of the community are invited to graduate from toying with Legos and Erector sets to building a Yurt.

From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 27, the LOMA Center for Renewal will raise a Yurt, kick off its first ever capital campaign drive, and host its annual corporation meeting all in one exuberant day of food, music, and Yurt raising.

The goal of this capital campaign is to raise $100,000 and receive $100,000 in a "top off" grant from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust. Contributions will enable LOMA to update its furnishings, replace worn carpeting, and upgrade energy systems. This will allow the retreat center to continue to provide a place for personal retreat, a meeting space for non-profit and community organizations, and to provide meals and housing to the homeless, jobs and a caring community to the ex-offender transitioning into society.

For more information contact Patrick Brady at 425-392-1871.

*(*The definition of Yurt: 1) A circular tent of felt, skins, or canvas on a framework of poles, first used by the nomads of Mongolia, 2) A new beginning at LOMA.)*

Called To Common Mission Forums

Sunday, Feb. 21--Trinity, Lynnwood
Sunday, Feb. 28--Burlington, Burlington
Sunday, March 14--Nativity, Renton

The discussion forums begin at 3 p.m. and are expected to last two hours.

George Fiori Recital

George Fiori, pianist, is in recital at 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 7, at Our Redeemer's, Seattle. This is an all Chopin recital. A free will offering to benefit Open Door Ministries.

Christian Spirituality

The Lutheran Center for Lay Study of the Sno-Isle Cluster presents a half-day workshop on **Christian Spirituality: Discipline and Practices from Our Christian History**. Alberto Ferreiro, professor of History and Religion at Seattle Pacific University, is the keynote speaker. This workshop will take place from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, March 13, at Central, Everett. Suggested donation is $10.

Professor Ferreiro is a Roman Catholic who has taught extensively on the rich spiritual traditions of Christian faith, especially those embodied by the disciplines of contemplation and prayer. Topics will include: Defining Christian spirituality; Sacred Scripture; Lectio Divina; Christian Meditation and Contemplation; Asceticism--Living the Spirit of the Monastic traditions; and taking contemplation into the world.

For more information contact Daren Erisman, LCLS Coordinator at 360-658-8160.

ESL Training Dates

The next training session for English as a Second Language (ESL) is set for Saturday, April 10, at Christ the Servant, Bellingham. Call Pastor Peter Lai, Region 1, at 206-624-0093 for more information.

Bach Through Y2K

The year 2000 marks the 250th anniversary of the death of Johann Sebastian Bach (1750). In this year of Bach, consider programming his music throughout your worship services. This celebration year promises to be bigger than the 300th anniversary of his birth celebrated across the church in 1985. Although the performance of Bach, often called the "Fifth Evangelist," never needs a rationale, the millennium and the anniversary together offer an excellent reason to explore his choral, keyboard, and instrumental music. Bach is commemorated on July 28 along with Schuetz and Handel.

Please share this information with your congregational worship committee, and music leaders. For more information contact Pastor D. Foy Christopherson, Worship Team, at Augsburg Fortress 1-800-426-0115 ext. 468; or e-mail at christop@augsburgfortress.org

Life Together

Augsburg Fortress and ELCA Division for Congregational Minisitries is introducing a new resource to support ministry called "Life Together." To learn more attend one of the free sessions:

- 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 11at Grace, Des Moines
- 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 9, at Augsburg Fortress, Mountlake Terrace.

To register, call Pastor David Halaas at 1-800-426-0115, ext. 540.

Lutheran Women's Caucus Sponsors Meeting

"Theological Education for Women in the Seattle Area" will be presented by the Puget Sound Chapter of the Lutheran Women's Caucus (LWC). The meeting will take place at 11:45 a.m. on Saturday, March 6, at Central, Seattle.

The Rev. Dr. Phyllis Anderson, Director of the Seattle University Institute for Ecumencial Theological Studies, is the keynote speaker.

The meeting will begin with shared finger food, and participants are asked to bring their own cup or mug for beverages. Both the luncheon and the program are open to the public.

For more information call Sarah Wing at 425-747-5924.

Holden Youth Weekends

Check out your *justabouteverythingpages* for information about the May weekends at Holden Village. Call the Region 1 office at 206-624-0093 for more information

70 Percent Full

Finders Weepers, Losers Keepers is now 70 percent full with more than 3,000 youth signed up. The youth gathering will take place June 30 to July 6 in Seattle. Check out the web site at www.wsyg.com or call Pastor Maynard Atik at 206-783-7900.

Making Christ Known: A Window Of Hope

Mark your calendars for the 1999 Synod Assembly: Friday, June 18, and Saturday, June 19, at Grace Lutheran, Des Moines. The theme this year is "Making Christ Known: A Window Of Hope" with an emphasis on hunger. The chair of the Synod Assembly Planning Committee is Ernie Fosse. You can contact Ernie at 425-936-0136 (work) or 360-652-2909 (home) or erniefo@microsoft.com. Other members of the committee include (so far):

Donene Blair--Synod Representative
Ed Gustafson--Inclusion of People with Handicapping Conditions Committee Co-chair
Bill Haines--NWWOLY Advisor
Cindy Kopperstad-World Hunger Committee Chair
Bob Moylan--Co-chair, and 2000 Assembly Chair
Debbie O'Neal--Grace, Des Moines, Congregation Representative
Margit Peiffle--Synod Communication Specialist
Cheryl Wolff--Registrar

Wanted

Used pascal candle, still in good condition. Don't shove it away in a corner of the sacristy. Call Rev. Bev Piro at 206-542-1314 or e-mail at brpiro@aol.com. She will put it to good use.

Church/Community Life Organizer

Immanuel, Seattle, has an opening for a job to assist the congregation in tending to the transitions taking place in the congregation, neighborhood, city, and world. Contact Immanuel for a job announcement and application: 1215 Thomas, Seattle, 98109 or 206-622-1930. Closes April 9.

Director of Youth and Family Ministries

Our Redeemer's, Seattle, is seeking a Director of Youth and Family Ministries. If you would like more information, please contact Pastor Maynard Atik at 206-783-7900.

Assoc. Dir. of Contextual Education

Luther Seminary, St. Paul, is seeking a candidate for a three year term call as an Associate Director of Contextual Education beginning July 1, 1999. Pastoral experience desirable. Interest should be indicated in writing to Dr. Randy Nelson, Director of Contextual Education by March 1. For more information contact Nelson at 651-641-3259 or e-mail at rnelson@luthersem.edu.

Director of Music

Our Savior, Issaquah, is seeking a Director of Music for a 3/4 time position. Includes direction and coordination of chorus and music programs, worship planning, and supervision of organists and choir directors. Salary DOE. Send resume and salary requirements to Our Savior, 745 Front St. S., Issaquah, WA 98027. Attn: Search Committee or call Pastor Larry Thomas at 425-392-4169.

Youth Leader Needed

Anacortes Lutheran is in search of a Youth Leader. This position is for a person who likes to work with junior and senior high youth, lead Bible studies, arrange and carry through on scheduled outings, retreats. We prefer someone who is Lutheran and thus familiar with confirmation, Lutheran worship, and somewhat savvy regarding national youth offerings in terms of gatherings, etc.

Anacortes Lutheran has a strong and viable Youth Committee willing and ready to provide support and encouragement for someone having a sense of call to youth ministry.

Position is now open. Salary and benefits depending on experience. On site interview required. Send resume or inquiries to Pastor. Dennis L. Hanson, 2100 "O" Ave, Anacortes, WA 98221 or alc@Fidalgo.net.

Within Our Family

Prayers for strength and healing for...

† **Ed Kaiser** with his continued illness.

† The family of **Pastor Paul Shoup,** whose father Rev. G. F. Shoup died in January.

† The family of **Pastor Knute Lee** (see story on page 12).

† **Pastor Mark Nelson**, Assistant to Bishop Keller (Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod) who suffered a heart attack while in Seattle on Feb. 6.

† **Pastor Cindy Salo** whose mother died in a house fire in Minnesota on Feb. 10.

Congratulations to...

† **Pastor Tim Overlund and Hanna Petros** on the birth of their baby daughter, Sake Miriam.

† **Pastor Mary, Chris, and Molly Lindberg** who recently welcomed a new addition to their family, six-month-old June, from South Korea.

† **Pastor Palmer Gedde**, Shelton, and **Pastor Erman Lunder**, Issaquah, were awarded the Faithfulness in Ministry Cross. Gedde was recognized for his unique contributions to urban/suburban ministry; and Lunder was honored for outstanding work in specialized ministry.

Chairs Needed!!!

Do you have some folding chairs that you no longer need? Please contact Pastor Kevin Bates at Advent, Mill Creek, at 425-337-5373. They would love to have them and are willing to pay.

News and Notes

- Pray for **Zawditu Deressa** who has been held in an Ethiopian prison for the last year because she gave treatment to two supporters of the government's opposition party. Her sister serves the ELCA in the Division for Global Mission in Chicago. Zawditu's next court appearance is on Feb. 28.
- Copy for the April issue of Soundings and The Spirit is due on Monday, March 1. Copy for the July supplement of The Lutheran is due on Monday, April 19. (Send information to Margit Peiffle at 21721 88th Ave NE, Arlington, WA 98223; 360-403-9870 phone; 360-435-5955 fax; e-mail: peifflepr@aol.com or Margit Peiffle on LutherLink).
- The Women of the ELCA Triennial Convention Web site is: www.elca.org/wo/tc99.
- Holden Village has a experimental web site that is being hosted by PLU at: www.chem.plu.edu/holdenvillage.
- "Dial Bishop Anderson" March 15 message will be a report from the Conference of Bishops. Dial 773-380-2930 or read current and past messages at ELCA web site at: www.elca.org/ob/dial.htm.
- Check out the new Region 1 newsletter called Connect, a bi-monthly publication for congregations. Call the Region 1 office at 206-624-0093 if you did not get a copy.
- Congregations should have received their Global Mission Tool Kit. If you have any questions, contact Rev. David Lerseth at 1-800-639-3522, ext. 2641, or e-mail at dlerseth@elca.org.

Pastor Knute Lee

The Rev. Dr. Knute W.D. Lee, a former Navy pilot whose World War II exploits included sinking the dreaded Japanese I-17 submarine, who became a Lutheran pastor, and who became a well-known Bible teacher, died at age 82 on February 3, at a nursing home in Bellevue. For several years he had suffered from Alzheimer's Disease.

In August 1943, as a pilot of U.S. Navy Squadron 57 based at Noumea, New Caledonia in the South Pacific, Lee dropped depth charges to sink the very same enemy submarine which, it later was determined, had sunk American shipping off the U.S. west coast and which Lee had himself sought while flying patrols there a year earlier.There were six Japanese submariners who survived and young Ensign Lee had the rare opportunity of interviewing them in a prisoner-of-war compound. The episode had a profound effect on him and his decision to become a Lutheran minister, according to his 1984 memoir, "Survivor: Knute's Wild Story".

Dr. Lee had retired from the faculty of LBI (1973-81). He taught at PLU (1961-64) and Luther College, Decorah, IA (1953-61). He was pastor of Bethlehem, Tacoma (1964-73) and Manette, Bremerton (1948-51). He was chaplain for construction workers of Project "Blue Jay", building the huge air base at Thule, Greenland, for a year from June 1951 to 1952. This became the basis for his first book, "Plain Talk in an Arctic Chapel".

Knute William David Lee, always known to his family as Bill, was born on March 19, 1916 in Spring Grove, Minnesota to Knute and Mathilda (Glasrud) Lee. He attended Luther College after graduating in 1933 from his home-town high school. After college he served from 1937 to 1941 as high school band director and teacher in Little Cedar, IA, Madison, MN, and Glasgow, MT.

Following World War II he studied at Luther Theological Seminary in St. Paul, MN, and was ordained as a Lutheran pastor in 1948.He received a doctorate in education from Columbia University in New York in 1961.

He married Shirley Foster, then a native of New Rockford, ND, in 1946, a student nurse and later public school teacher, who survives.She lives in Duvall. Also surviving are four sons and eleven grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Soundings

News and information of the

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Web Site: www.lutheransnw.org

The Rev. Donald Maier, Bishop
The Rev. Dr. James Moy, Assistant to the Bishop
Donene Blair, Executive Assistant
Linda Albert, Office Assistant
Margit Peiffle, Communication Specialist

The Northwest Washington Synod is a ministry partner with the Northern Work Area, Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus

(Permission to copy any of the information in Soundings for use in congregations is granted.)